

SENATE BILL 2139

By Finney L

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to removing the requirement that a voter must present photograph identification prior to voting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112(a)(1), is amended by deleting the following language:

In addition, the voter shall present to the precinct registrar one (1) form of identification that bears the name and photograph of the voter. The requirement to present one (1) form of identification that bears the name and photograph of the voter shall apply to persons voting pursuant to § 2-6-109; provided, however, that a person voting in accordance with § 2-6-401(a) and (b) or § 2-6-601 shall not be required to show an identification with a photograph of the voter.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112(a)(1)(B), is amended by deleting that subdivision in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(B) To compare the voter's signature on the application, the voter shall supply evidence of identification specified in subsection (c).

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112(a)(1)(C), is amended by deleting the language "verification of" and substituting instead the language "comparison of the signature and other".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112(a)(3)(A), is amended by deleting the following language:

If a voter is unable to present evidence of identification, the voter shall be entitled to vote a provisional ballot pursuant to subsection (e) unless the voter is eligible to vote pursuant to subsection (f).

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112(a)(1), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision thereto:

(E) If a voter is unable to present any evidence of identification specified in subsection (c), the voter shall be required to execute an affidavit of identity on a form provided by the county election commission.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112, is amended by deleting subsection (c) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(c) For purposes of comparing the person's signature on the application for ballot, "evidence of identification" shall be a valid voter's registration certificate, Tennessee driver license, social security card, credit card bearing the applicant's signature or other document bearing the applicant's signature".

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112, is amended by deleting subsections (e) and (f).

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.